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## TREASURER SHAWN T. WOODEN ANNOUNCES NEW PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT OFFICER FOR CONNECTICUT'S PUBLIC FUNDS

## DENISE STAKE WILL MANAGE THE STATE'S \$5.2 BILLION REAL ASSETS PORTFOLIO

Hartford, CT – Today, Connecticut State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden announced the selection of Denise Stake as the new Principal Investment Officer for Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds' (CRPTF's) Real Assets portfolio. This decision follows the completion of a competitive national search to fill this important role.

Stake assumed the position today, Tuesday, January 18th, 2022, and will be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day management of the \$5.2 billion Real Assets Fund within the Pension Fund Management Division.

Stake has extensive real estate experience and most recently served as Managing Director, Portfolio Manager for Barings LLC (formerly Cornerstone Advisers) for over 15 years.

"I am excited to have Denise Stake join our investment team as our new Principal Investment Officer for Real Assets," said Treasurer Wooden. "Her extensive portfolio management experience brings strong analytical skills and a strategic approach that will benefit and strengthen our investment team."

Stake holds a master's degree in Economics and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Real Estate, and Urban Economics from the University of Connecticut (UConn). Subsequently, at UConn, she served as an adjunct faculty member to the Finance Department, where she presented lectures on a course titled Principles of Real Estate. Stake has also been an active

member of the Pension Real Estate Association in Hartford, where she served as co-leader of the innovation/sustainability affinity group for three years and chair of the Portfolio Management Committee of the National Council of Real Estate Investment Fiduciaries.

"As a longtime Connecticut resident, I am honored to join a great investment team working on behalf of the beneficiaries of the Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds," said Denise Stake. "I look forward to leading the Real Assets investment portfolio and continuing the momentum of improving the financial viability of the State pension funds."

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## **About the Office of the State Treasurer:**

Under the leadership of Connecticut's State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden, the Office of the Treasurer is dedicated to safeguarding the state's financial resources and taxpayers' dollars, while maximizing returns and minimizing risks for pension beneficiaries and operating at the highest professional and ethical standards. Through investments and cash management, the office continues to enhance the state's fiscal stability, financial literacy, college savings, and its approach to leveraging business partnerships to combat social issues such as gun violence, climate change, and equal opportunity for economic growth. Learn more about the Office of the Treasurer here and follow along on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.